



State of Illinois

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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7/97

Mary A. Gade, Director

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## BATAVIA GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION STUDY

Fact Sheet # 1 July 1997

The IEPA will be conducting an investigation in Batavia in an effort to determine the source of industrial solvent contamination which has been detected in some private water wells near the east bank of the Fox river. The investigation will include the installation of monitoring wells to check water quality at various depths and the excavation of test pits to inspect for buried waste. IEPA and Illinois Department of Public Health have already sampled private wells in all areas near the contaminated wells, and no additional problems have been found.

The workers conducting the investigation are employed by an Environmental Contractor working for the IEPA. They are trained in safety techniques to protect themselves and the general public from possible exposure to physical and chemical hazards during the investigation.

The working zone where each monitoring well or test pit is to be constructed will be marked with a temporary "fence" of yellow tape. This is to warn the public of potential risks from excavating equipment or possible exposure to contaminants. Only the environmental workers will be allowed inside the working zone until the work is finished and the excavation is closed.

You may observe workers wearing protective clothing and respirators. This equipment is required during any environmental investigation, to prevent exposure to any contamination exposed during the investigation, and does not necessarily mean that hazardous chemicals are present. Environmental Contractors investigate many different types of contamination during their career, and every effort is made to prevent their exposure to any contamination.

If you have questions regarding this project, **please do not interrupt the workers.** Please direct your questions to any of the following:

Stan Black  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Community Relations  
1001 N. Grand Avenue  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9506  
(217) 785-1427

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